

(b) and (c) The NCR Planning Board was constituted in 1985 with the twin objective of reducing the population by decongesting NCT Delhi and achieving a balanced and harmonised development of the region covering an area of 30242 sq.km. The NCR has been trying to achieve this objective by way of promoting infrastructural development and growth of the NCR areas, development of counter magnet towns and facilitation for housing and other important social sector and infrastructural projects. The NCR has sanctioned 138 projects till December 2000 to the tune of Rs. 3814.54 crores of which 57 schemes have been completed. The Ministry has also facilitated relocation of non conforming industries from Delhi to the NCR areas by way of organising interface, opening of facilitation counters of the NCR States in Delhi and having close coordination with these States for such purpose.

As far as the concept of satellite towns is concerned, this was also addressed in the Master Plan for Delhi 1962 which visualised the development of six ring towns of Loni and Ghaziabad in UP, Faridabad, Ballabgarh and Gurgaon in Haryana and Narela in NCT Delhi. A core group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation Minister to prioritise the development of NCR and prepare a comprehensive plan for the same.

Earthquake proof Delhi Metro Rail Structures

1120. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a press report, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Chairman assured that all metro structures in the capital were being built strong enough to endure maximum stress and strain in case of an earthquake; and

(b) if so, the plans to ensure the same precaution for other structures, already built up or under construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has informed that all structures of Delhi Metro Rail Project has been/are being designed in accordance with the criteria for 'Earthquake Resistant Design of Structures' laid down in the relevant Indian Standard Codes. Delhi falls in Zone IV, which is a moderately high seismic Zone for which basic horizontal seismic co-efficient is 0.05 as per IS—1893—1984. The seismic co-efficient adopted for design of Delhi Metro Structures is 0.07 which is only slightly

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less than 0.08 which is the recommended co-efficient for Zone V, the most severe earthquake zone in the country.

News-item regarding vacant DDA flats in Bindapur

†1121. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) Government's reaction to the news-item captioned, "Bindapur mein DDA ke khali flat aiyyashi ke adde banein" appeared in the Dainik Jagaran, dated 4th February, 2001;

(b) the reasons for which Government have not made allotment of these flats; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to stop such undesirable activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The Government are aware of this news-item and action is being taken, wherever necessary.

(b) The DDA have informed that these flats which are independent expandable housing units, were allotted under Expandable Housing Schemes in 1995 & 1997. But the registrants did not accept the allotment of these flats. As such, the DDA propose to allot these flats along with similar flats in Rohini and Narela to Punjab migrants.

(c) The DDA have reported that all the vacant flats in Bindapur are under lock and key and security guards have been deployed to guard the flats. The Delhi Police have reported that two cases under ITP Act (Immoral Traffic Prevention Act) were registered in the year 2000. Also, the Beat Staff and the Divisional Officer have been directed by the Delhi Police to keep a strict watch in the area. The DDA is also being directed to have better supervision of watch and ward staff of the area properly.

Adherence of norms for construction of multi-storey buildings in Gujarat

†1122. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether norms laid down for construction of multi-storey buildings in big cities of Gujarat had been followed;

(b) what procedure is being adopted to find out the facts in this regard;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.